is admissible in respect of amounts received on encashment of leave salary while in service. This relief is granted by the Income-tax Officer on an application made to him in this behalf.

(c) No such case has come to the notice of the Income-tax Officer, Bhaiwani.

Foreign tourists

1166. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of tourists from each country who visited India during the last two years, year-wise; and

(b) what steps are being taken to boost tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The information is given in the annexure. [*See* Appendix CXXXVIII Annexure No. 31].

(b) The steps initiated to increase the inflow of foreign tourists to India include reorientation of publicity campaigns giving emphasis on consumer advertising stepping up of public relations with overseas media agencies, tour operators and travel agents abroad, participation in international travel fairs and exhibitions, development of infrastructural facilities and improvement of transport systems including increasing airlines capacity and permitting tourist charters.

Letters received from Members of Parliament in the Central Board of Direct Taxes

1167. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters received from Members of Parliament|VIPs, which are still pending in the Central Board of Direct Taxes (i) upto 3 months; (ii) 3—6 months; (iii) 6—12 months; and (iv) more than one year old, with brief subjects, stage of each letter; and

(b) by when these letters are likely to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) As on 1.4.1985 there were 38 VIP|MP references pending in the Central Board of Direct Taxes. During 1.4.1985 to 15.4.86, 595 references were received. Out of these 548 references were disposed of in the corresponding period, thus leaving pendency of such references to 85 as on 16.4.1986. Out of them, 77 letters were pending upto 3 months, 5 letters were pending between 3—6 months, 3 letters were pending between 6—12 months and no letter was pending for more than one year.

These letters pertained to different subjects concerning Direct Tax Laws and their implementation. In view of the complexities involved in each such case, it is difficult to lay any target date for their disposal. However, high priority is attached to the disposal of such letters.

100 per cent export oriented gold jewellery manufacturing complex

1168. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme for 100 per cent export oriented gold jewellery manufacturing complex has failed to take off and that not a single unit has come up any where in the country;

(b) if so, when the scheme for setting up 100 per cent export oriented gold jewellery manufacturing complexes was first mooted and approved;

(c) what are the major reasons for the non-implementation of the scheme; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (d) The scheme for setting up special export oriented complexes for manufature of gold